

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 247508
ORIGIN NODS-00

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 247508

NODIS
CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PGOV, KS, US

SUBJECT: RETURN FOR CONSULTATIONS ON KIM DONG-JO
RESPONSES

1. IN EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING SEPTEMBER 27, HOUSE
ETHICS COMMITTEE DECIDED TO REQUEST YOUR RETURN TO
WASHINGTON TO CONSULT WITH THE COMMITTEE REGARDING THE
RESPONSE BY KIM DONG-JO TO THE COMMITTEE'S INTERROGATORY.
THAT RESPONSE HAS BEEN CHARACTERIZED PRIVATELY BY
THE COMMITTEE AS UNSATISFACTORY. CHAIRMAN FLYNT HAS
SUBSEQUENTLY CONTACTED THE DEPARTMENT PERSONALLY TO
CONVEY THE COMMITTEE'S REQUEST.

2. YOU SHOULD MAKE PLANS TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON ON
CONSULTATIONS AS SOON AS FEASIBLE. IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE
FOR YOU TO ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON THIS COMING WEEKEND IN
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ORDER TO BEGIN CONSULTATIONS BEGINNING MONDAY, OCTOBER 2.
YOU SHOULD PLAN TO BE HERE APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK,
RETURNING TO SEOUL THE FOLLOWING WEEKEND.

3. YOU SHOULD INFORM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OF THE
PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF YOUR RETURN AT THIS TIME AND WE WILL
ALSO INFORM THE KOREAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON ON FRIDAY.

4. IN COMMENTING PUBLICLY ON YOUR RETURN, HOWEVER, RECOMMEND THAT YOU SIMPLY STATE THAT FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF YOUR ORIENTATION PERIOD IN SEOUL IT IS TIMELY FOR YOU TO CONVEY INSIGHTS AND CONSULT WITH OFFICIALS HERE. COMMITTEE HAS NOT PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED ANY REACTION TO KIM DONG-JO RESPONSE OR ANY REQUEST FOR YOUR RETURN. ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN SOME PRESS KNOWLEDGE OF DISSATISFACTION WITHIN THE COMMITTEE REGARDING THE RESPONSE, AND WE ASSUME YOUR CONSULTATIONS WITH THE COMMITTEE WILL BE KNOWN IN DUE COURSE, THERE WOULD BE REAL DISADVANTAGES FOR US-KOREAN RELATIONS AT THIS JUNCTURE FOR US TO PORTRAY THE PRINCIPAL REASON OF YOUR VISIT HOME AS RELATED TO KOREAGATE.

5. THIS VISIT WOULD ALSO SUBSTITUTE FOR YOUR

CONSULTATIONS IN NOVEMBER WHICH HAD ALREADY BEEN DISCUSSED. TRAVEL ORDERS WILL FOLLOW BY SEPTTEL. CHRISTOPHER

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